

COUNTRY _____
TOPIC Dessau Airfield 25X1A
EVALUATION _____ 25X1A PLACE OBTAINED _____ 25X1A
DATE OF CONTENT _____ 25X1A
DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 10 February 1953
REFERENCES _____
PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____
REMARKS _____

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1. The following observations were made at the field from 16 through 25 December 1952:

25X1A 16 December. There was air activity at the field from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Local training flights were made.

22 December. Take-offs and landings were practiced from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The closed ceiling was at an altitude of 500 meters, and visibility was 6,000 to 8,000 meters.

24 December. From 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., ground attack planes practiced diving. The pilots of these planes were apparently beginners. Another type plane was seen in formation flights in groups of 3 and 5. There was a 5/10 overcast at an altitude of about 1,500 meters; visibility was 6,000 to 8,000 meters.

25 December. At 10:20 a.m. a twin-engine plane landed and at 10:50 a.m. a twin-engine plane took off.¹

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- 25X1C 2. Source observed a flying ground attack plane _____ the undersides of the wings of this plane were fitted with two rails about 45 cm apart extending the entire width of the wings at a point about 2 meters from the wing tips.²

- 25X1X 3. On 28 December, a German technical staff whose members wore civilian clothes arrived at the field, allegedly from Dresden and Pirna. The _____

25X1X

25X1X

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/

407

SECRET/

- 2 -

25X1A

25X1X

4. Components of Bauunion firms, allegedly also from the Bauunion Bitterfeld, moved to Dessau. The Auto Transport Genossenschaft (Carrier Cooperative) (ATG) had been ordered to employ all available vehicles for the removal of debris from the Junkers aircraft plant. Clearing-up work was started in both the northern and southern sections of the aircraft plant.

5. Since 29 December, the gates of Dessau airfield have been guarded by VP sentries.

6. On 23 December, doors and cables were removed from the flight control station at the field. About 40 cable reels with field wire were seen in front of this building. No truck was seen at the radio installation and the red flag had been removed from the low wooden building behind the radio station. No Soviet sentries were seen at the Alten railroad station. On 6 January 1953, source observed a VP guard, who wore a blue uniform, at the entrance of the airfield. Several VP personnel were seen on the road to the landing field. At 3:40 p.m., [redacted] observed a VP sentry at the field and a double-sentry patrolling the board fence of the installation. The low wooden buildings at the field were neglected. On 8 January, the three sheds at the northeastern edge of the installation were empty. The lamps and powerlines had been removed from the shrapnelproof aircraft revetments. No aircraft were observed at the field.

7. On 23 December, the AAA unit stationed in the southeastern corner of the field prepared to move. The guns were removed from their emplacements and the terrain was leveled. Vehicles were being loaded with equipment. On 8 January 1953, source observed that the AAA emplacement on the northwestern side of the installation had also been evacuated and leveled.

8. In early January it was rumored in Dessau that the former Junkers aircraft plant was to be reconstructed. [redacted]

[redacted] that former Junkers employees, who were deported to the U.S.S.R. in 1945, were expected back by March 1953. [redacted]

9. On 29 December, about 30 flatcars loaded with an unidentified number of 37- and 76-mm AA guns, 5 tank trucks and 15 trucks were observed on the spur track of Dessau airfield. Eighty soldiers who wore red-bordered

SECRET

SECRET

- 3 -

25X1A

25X1A

black epaulets were involved in the loading operations. Two flatcars loaded with aircraft parts were also seen. Boards and beams, mattresses and beds were removed from the bunkers of the AAA emplacements at the field. No officers or EM with black-bordered blue epaulets were seen.

10. No Soviet troops were seen at the field on 29 December 1952, 1, 3, and 10 January 1953. The airfield area was guarded by VP personnel that wore blue uniforms.
11. Between 29 December 1952 and 10 January 1953, a construction headquarters staff arrived in Dessau and moved to a requisitioned house. It was rumored that the buildings of the former Junkers aircraft plant were to be reconstructed. By 10 January, the Junkers specialists who were expected back in Dessau, had not yet arrived.

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25X1A

1. Comment. Prior to 26 December 1952, Dessau airfield was occupied by a ground attack regiment that moved to Brandis. The present report indicates that the evacuation of the field by the Russians may be connected with the intended reconstruction of the Junkers aircraft plant.

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2. Comment. These rails probably were guide rails for rockets.

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The firing of rockets from 11-108 was also observed

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